

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 and 21 are currently pending. The Examiner has allowed claim 21. Claims 1-15 and 22 have been canceled by the present amendment. As such, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of remaining claim 21.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection of Claims 1-3

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 as being obvious over Siiter in view of Wildi and further in view of Bonnell. While Applicants traverse this rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 1-3 merely in an effort to advance prosecution, and therefore respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection is now moot.

Should the Examiner believe that there remains any outstanding issues, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' Representative so as to expedite resolution of these outstanding issues.

The 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection of Claims 4-7

The Examiner has rejected claims 4-7 as being obvious over Siiter in view of Wildi and further in view of Di Maio. While Applicants traverse this rejection, Applicants have canceled claims 4-7 merely in an effort to advance prosecution, and therefore respectfully submit that the outstanding rejection is now moot.

Should the Examiner believe that there remains any outstanding issues, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact Applicants' Representative so as to expedite resolution of these outstanding issues.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that pending claim 21 remains in condition for allowance and action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Applicants submit that the present Amendment After Final is responsive to each of the points raised by the Examiner and contains no new matter. Further, Applicants believe that the present Amendment is merely formal in nature, is in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions, reduces the number of issues under consideration and places the case in condition for allowance. Applicants believe the present Amendment was necessitated by the outstanding Final Office Action and submits that the present amendments to, or cancellation of, the claims were not previously made as the prior claims were believed to be allowable over the cited prior art.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the present Amendment After Final be entered under 37 CFR § 1.116 and the case be passed to issue.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number below to expedite resolution of any issues that the Examiner may consider to remain unresolved. In particular, should a Notice of Allowance not be forthcoming, the Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned for a telephonic interview, an Examiner's amendment, or the like, while the outstanding issues are fresh in the mind of the Examiner.

Authorization is hereby given to charge the Three Month Extension fee to our Deposit Account No.13-0235. It is believed that no additional fees or deficiencies in fees are owed. However, authorization is also hereby given to charge our Deposit Account No.13-0235 in the event any additional fees are owed.

Respectfully submitted,

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